

Biosciences Initiative Grant Review Process FY 2019

Exploratory Funding Opportunities:

Exploratory Funding Opportunity applications were received by PIs from across the Ann Arbor campus. The proposals were independently scored by the Biosciences Initiative Coordinating Committee (BICC) members on the basis of the criteria described in the RFA. All grants were then discussed in detail by the committee to yield the final funding recommendations to the President and Provost.

Scientific Synergy and Scientific Research Proposals

Scientific Synergy and Scientific Research Letters of Intent (LOI) were received by the BICC in April of 2018.

The proposals were independently scored by BICC members on the basis of the criteria described in the RFA and ranked by a composite score. The best nine of the 16 LOIs submitted were invited to submit a full proposal, and all PIs received a critique of their proposal. The PIs invited back were asked to take those points into consideration when submitting the full proposals.

9 Full Proposals were received on August 31st, 2018, and each was assigned a primary and secondary reviewer from the BICC. All BICC members were asked to review all applications

Two to three external content reviewers from across the nation were asked to do a confidential review of the proposals independent of committee input, and these were provided to all BICC members. The BICC then met, and primary and secondary reviewers provided a preliminary score and description of their applications. Each BICC member then privately ranked all 9 grants, and composite scores were determined.

A Biosciences Initiative Council composed of Dr. Jack Dixon, Dr. Tachi Yamada, and Dr. Gail Mandel also reviewed the 9 Full Proposals along with the external reviewer feedback. The Council then met with the BICC in two telephone conferences to provide recommendations for the grants they would fund.

Based on the composite scores from the BICC, and the recommendations of the Biosciences Council, the BICC then provided a recommendation to the President and the Provost for consideration of funding. The BICC will then meet with the President and the Provost on October 2nd, to answer questions regarding the recommendation, and hopes to make funding announcements by October 19th.